

TERMS OF THE NEWS.

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Address: RICHARDSON, DAWSON & CO., No. 149 East Bay, Charleston, S.C.

The Charleston News.

THURSDAY, APRIL 20, 1871.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

—Gold closed in New York yesterday at 115 1/2.

—The proprietors of three of the large hotels in New York City have recently gone into bankruptcy.

—The spring book trade sale in New York was a surprise to the trade. Good, new and standard books brought excellent prices.

—The colored cadet Smith, at West Point, has been kicking the shins of some of "the white trash" there.

—A Covington lady gave her child hair oil for a cough, by mistake, but it worked just as well.

—Judge Filippin, of Tennessee, was recently compelled, in the line of his duty, to sentence an old school-mate and play-fellow to death for a heinous crime.

—They talk of placing the Queen of Denmark, the most economical of female sovereigns, on the throne of fashion, in place of the Empress Eugenie, the most extravagant one.

—Indiana ladies evidently do not appreciate the tenderness of women's blighted hearts. The other day, twelve of these monsters in human form awarded only nineteen cents out of \$30,000 claimed by a young lady in a breach of promise suit.

—In London a season of grand opera is announced to continue thirty-five nights, and the subscription price is fixed for the season at \$1155 for a seat during the season. The average price for a single evening is thus \$33 in gold.

—Kansas City, Mo., must be a delightful and secure place of residence. It is two miles square, contains 40,000 inhabitants, and has a force of only nine policemen. Either they must be a very law-abiding people in Kansas City, or else the state of society must be rather unpleasant.

—It will be remembered that some time ago a description was given of a unique gold pen—a perfect imitation of a goose quill, and incriminated with diamonds, which was made expressly for Prince Bismarck at Pforzheim, and presented to him by Herr Bissinger, of that place, who requested that the treaty of peace should be signed with it. It was actually used for that purpose, and the chancellor related with manifest gratification the history of this precious plume to some French gentleman who happened to be present.

—It is proposed to open in Frankfurt a sort of commercial intelligence office, to be called a German-American Bureau, which is designed to supply the German holders of American securities with information as to financial affairs in this country. Merchants, manufacturers and emigrants will also be put in possession of such facts about American matters as they may require, and numerous agents are engaged in all parts of Germany to forward to the establishment the latest and most important news. In connection with this enterprise is to be issued a weekly journal to be called the Deutsch-Amerikanischer Economist.

—General Werder, who at a critical period interposed with a handful of men against Bismarck's invasion of Germany, has just been presented by a number of American residents and sojourners in Vienna with an elegantly executed complimentary address, bound in red velvet, and ornamented with a design in gold and enamel, representing the Imperial German eagle and the flags of Germany and America. The address, which was composed by some literary American residing in Vienna, whose name is not given, is both German and English. It begins with expressing the best wishes of America for German unity and prosperity, and ends by calling for a grand and welcoming cheer for the German Empire.

—France will have to pay 5,000,000,000 francs to Germany as a war indemnity. This is a five-franc gold piece, which weighs 55,000,000 francs avoirdupois. To transport all this gold by rail, supposing each car to carry 11,000 pounds, a train of 5000 cars would be required. When spread out on the ground, one touching the other, these five-franc gold pieces would reach almost around the globe. If five-franc pieces enough to make this amount were placed one above the other, they would make a column of gold 1676 miles in height. If this column, having its base in Paris, should topple over in the direction of Berlin, Berlin would be only one-third of the whole distance reached by the coin at the top of the column. A quick cashier, able to count 10,000 five-franc pieces in an hour, supposing that he commenced at the age of 20, would be nearly 70 years of age before he finished counting it, in case he should count eight hours daily for 300 days every year.

—When the envoys of M. de Rothschild paid the war contributions of Paris, 200,000,000 francs, at Versailles, they let a counterfeit 25 thaler bill slip in among the others. The quick eye of a Prussian official at once detected it and the bill was thrown out. Rothschild's people insisted that it was genuine and must be accepted, otherwise they would return to Paris with all their rolls of notes and sacks of coin. With that official exactness which is the glory of Prussian routine, Count Bismarck was at once informed of the misunderstanding. He answered: "Herr Director, accept the bill. I will myself make up the deficit and preserve the counterfeit note as a memento of this great day. A great war about nothing more tangible than a 'Chateau en Espagne' has just been concluded between two great powers; and I can't afford, just on the heel of it, to turn around and declare war with the house of Rothschild, the Sixth Great European Power, on account of a false 25 thaler note."

—The sessions of the Joint High Commission are remarkable in one particular—that of their successful secrecy. The commissioners on both sides appear to be unapproachable, and the most that can be claimed for the reports that reach us is probability. According to these, it is understood that the fisheries question opposes the great obstacle to a conclusion of the conference. The announced settlement of this matter is now said to be premature, as the British members had the American case much stronger than they expected, and are yet loath to yield on a point in which they had so much confidence. With regard to the Alabama question, it is stated that a definite agreement has been found. The principle is conceded that nations are responsible for depredations on a friendly power committed by vessels fitted out in their ports, and it is agreed that the Alabama claims shall be submitted,

on this principle, to a commission of five members, to be appointed by the English and American Governments, and those of Brazil, Switzerland and Italy, or, those falling, of Sweden and Norway—this commission to meet at Washington and determine all the claims within two years, when they will be paid in gold. A supplementary commission is provided for, in case of disagreement. If this settlement is correct, it will be seen that the United States gains almost every point claimed.

—The second pamphlet written by Napoleon III, at Wilhelmshöhe, has been published at Brussels. It is the "Military Organization of the North German Army," and contains some remarks on the causes of the French defeat. "Before the misfortunes of 1870," he says, "no weight was attached to the opinion of those who declared that the military organization of our country stands in no relation to its political status. . . . Before the campaign of 1870, the artillery committee would not admit that the material of the Prussian artillery was more complete and practical than ours, and the engineer committee declared that our fortresses were not too numerous, and that they were in a condition to resist the new artillery. It would not admit that one-half of our fortresses must be razed and the other half rebuilt in accordance with the system that has made Antwerp one of the first fortresses in the world. It required such sad events as those we have witnessed to make General Canliani—a general of engineers—admit before a council of war that Metz could not withstand a siege for fourteen days if it lost the protection of Marshal Bazaine's army. Before the campaign of 1870, the military administration obstinately opposed the views of those who advised that the country should be divided into several districts, each with a corps d'armes capable of providing itself with every requisite for the field in its own district."

—The Columbia Union (Radical) thinks that the remedy for the troubles in this State lies beyond anything which will be likely to be done by a convention. It says: "Let such efforts be brought to bear upon the Legislature, as will induce that body to change 'some of the existing laws, out of useless officers, and reduce high salaries, the Lieutenant Governor among the rest; pass a law to allow cumulative voting, and more good can be achieved in this than in any other way. We do not believe anything can be done by attempting to tinker the Constitution. That is good enough as it is.' Governor Scott, however, deems it necessary to change the organic law in more than one particular.

—The declaration of Governor Scott in regard to the political and financial condition of the State, printed in The News of yesterday, are highly satisfactory as far as they go. They announce that the State debt is only \$8,000,000 instead of \$16,000,000; that there will be no difficulty in obtaining an extension of the time allowed for paying the tax of 1871; that the May Convention, if steered clear of politics, is likely to do far more good than harm; that there is a better political feeling in the State than at any previous time since the accomplishment of Reconstruction; that the representation of minorities is necessary and right; that, in appointing officials, regard will be had to the fitness and qualifications of a man rather than to his claims as a mere politician. This is a rose-colored view to take of the situation, and the people would like to be able to pin their faith to the statements of one who can evidently be jolly under the most depressing circumstances. But the events of the past three or four years have made this a sceptical people. The act is now the interpreter of the word, in the case of Leslie or Crews or Whitmore. How far, then, are the semi-official declarations of Governor Scott confirmed by the most trustworthy information previously in possession of the people?

In the first place we would correct one erroneous impression. Governor Scott says that he believes that a large majority of the whites "are Republicans at heart, for the reason very easily understood, that the chief issues of the Democratic party, so far as the State was concerned, are absorbed in the Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments to the Constitution, or are settled by the war." We admit that, in this State, the negro question is settled as a political issue. The amendments to the United States Constitution, which give the colored people their freedom and the right to vote, are now in operation in such a form that they cannot be abrogated except by another revolution. We held, then, that the majority of the whites in South Carolina do recognize the civil and political equality of the colored race, and have no thought of receding from the position, in that regard, which they occupied during the Reform canvass. But this does not make them Republicans, as the words of Governor Scott tend to suggest. Whenever there is, in State or Federal affairs, a political canvass, the whites will vote en masse against the Republican party. A purely Reform movement may be kept clear of politics, and in such a movement Radicals and anti-Radicals may work and vote together, but wherever politics enter into the canvass the whites will vote squarely against Radicalism. And for obvious reasons. A recognition of the political rights of the negro does not read a man, or any set of men, out of the Democratic party. New York stands to-day where South Carolina stands, and so do the great States of the West. The Democracy of the present—as far as can be judged from the action of separate States—are flatly opposed to arraying that party against negro suffrage. On the other hand there are important questions on which the Democratic party will claim the support of the whites, and of the blacks, in this and in every other State. We

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—The Municipal Elections.

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A Radical city paper prints a strong appeal to the people to remove the approaching municipal elections from the sphere of partisan politics, and to work unitedly, Republicans with Democrats, to secure a strong and wise government for Charleston. This union of all good citizens for the election of honest and capable men, irrespective of party, was the platform of the Reformers in the late canvass, and it is a little singular that the first sheet to advocate a similar policy for Charleston is the one which exhausted all the richness of Billingsgate abuse in condemning the Reform movement. Perhaps "the party" are not as cock-sure of succeeding as they were last summer.

—The Governor's Plan.

The declaration of Governor Scott in regard to the political and financial condition of the State, printed in The News of yesterday, are highly satisfactory as far as they go. They announce that the State debt is only \$8,000,000 instead of \$16,000,000; that there will be no difficulty in obtaining an extension of the time allowed for paying the tax of 1871; that the May Convention, if steered clear of politics, is likely to do far more good than harm; that there is a better political feeling in the State than at any previous time since the accomplishment of Reconstruction; that the representation of minorities is necessary and right; that, in appointing officials, regard will be had to the fitness and qualifications of a man rather than to his claims as a mere politician. This is a rose-colored view to take of the situation, and the people would like to be able to pin their faith to the statements of one who can evidently be jolly under the most depressing circumstances. But the events of the past three or four years have made this a sceptical people. The act is now the interpreter of the word, in the case of Leslie or Crews or Whitmore. How far, then, are the semi-official declarations of Governor Scott confirmed by the most trustworthy information previously in possession of the people?

In the first place we would correct one erroneous impression. Governor Scott says that he believes that a large majority of the whites "are Republicans at heart, for the reason very easily understood, that the chief issues of the Democratic party, so far as the State was concerned, are absorbed in the Fourteenth and Fifteenth amendments to the Constitution, or are settled by the war." We admit that, in this State, the negro question is settled as a political issue. The amendments to the United States Constitution, which give the colored people their freedom and the right to vote, are now in operation in such a form that they cannot be abrogated except by another revolution. We held, then, that the majority of the whites in South Carolina do recognize the civil and political equality of the colored race, and have no thought of receding from the position, in that regard, which they occupied during the Reform canvass. But this does not make them Republicans, as the words of Governor Scott tend to suggest. Whenever there is, in State or Federal affairs, a political canvass, the whites will vote en masse against the Republican party. A purely Reform movement may be kept clear of politics, and in such a movement Radicals and anti-Radicals may work and vote together, but wherever politics enter into the canvass the whites will vote squarely against Radicalism. And for obvious reasons. A recognition of the political rights of the negro does not read a man, or any set of men, out of the Democratic party. New York stands to-day where South Carolina stands, and so do the great States of the West. The Democracy of the present—as far as can be judged from the action of separate States—are flatly opposed to arraying that party against negro suffrage. On the other hand there are important questions on which the Democratic party will claim the support of the whites, and of the blacks, in this and in every other State. We

want a sound currency, a reduction of expenses, an abolition of the protective tariff, and non-interference with the reserved rights of the States. These we cannot obtain from the Radical party. We agree with Governor Scott in the belief that Ku-Kluxism would consolidate Republicanism in the North as well as the South. But, if he carries out his promised reforms, there can be no Ku-Kluxism, and the questions of free trade and taxation will then lead to the triumph of the opponents of Radicalism here as throughout the land.

Upon the subject of the State debt we can, at this time, say little. Governor Scott admits that the debt of the State (outside of the railroad guarantees) is about \$8,000,000, and that there are, besides, \$2,200,000 of other bonds in the hands of the Financial Agent of the State. This is all that we have claimed. We have said, and say still, that the \$2,200,000 of bonds now in New York are a part of the public debt, and must so remain until the money borrowed upon their security is repaid, and the bonds themselves are cancelled. Governor Scott says that the Floating Debt (for which the bonds are pawned) is only \$1,000,000, and that he has half that sum in cash in the Treasury. We are glad to hear it. When the Floating Debt is paid and the hypothecated bonds are known to be cancelled, we will cheerfully put the debt down at Governor Scott's figures.

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